

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for treating RPET flakes,  
comprising:

providing a quantity of RPET flakes having  
melting contaminants;

comminuting the RPET flakes to prepare RPET  
particles having an average mean particle size less  
than about 300 microns;

melting the RPET particles, to prepare an RPET  
melt; and

mixing the RPET melt.

2. The process for treating RPET flakes according  
to Claim 1, wherein the RPET flakes comprise chunks,  
spheres, pellets, or mixtures thereof.

3. The process for treating RPET flakes according  
to Claim 1, wherein the RPET flakes have particle sizes  
from about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch to about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

4. The process for treating RPET flakes according  
to Claim 1, wherein the melting contaminants comprise  
Polyvinyl Chloride, Nylon, Polyethylene, Polypropylene,  
Ethyl Vinyl Alcohol, Polystyrene, or mixtures thereof.

5. The process for treating RPET flakes according to Claim 1, wherein the RPET particles are melted in an extruder.

5 6. The process for treating RPET flakes according to Claim 1, wherein the RPET particles are melted and the RPET melt is mixed simultaneously.